

I oppose this legislation and urge a "no" vote on the underlying legislation. And as a former Marine, I have benefitted from many programs that help veterans with education and training. As a continuation of those efforts, we must not let these people fall through the cracks that we have in our employment laws.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

May I respond simply to the arguments about our veterans because they are so important to us. Let me reiterate that H.R. 27 does not harm worker-retaining programs for veterans. Not one dollar from this account comes that is meant to help veterans with their training. The programs that we already have in place, specifically the Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program, the Local Veterans Employment Representative Program, the Vocational Rehabilitation Program, already are required to contribute to the infrastructure of these one-stop career center programs. Any money that would come to the one-stop center would be coming out of their administrative funds, not from the money going directly to the training of veterans. That is an area that was specifically covered in this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

In closing, my friends on the other side have had numerous objections to provisions in H.R. 27. They have a right to do so and I expect it will be warmly discussed in the ensuing discussion of the bill itself. I believe strongly in the ability of our States, Governors, local boards, workforce boards, to be creative and innovative. There is no omniscient power that we have here. People can think for themselves in other parts of this country. And the essence of our government demands that we give them the opportunity to succeed without the benevolent help of the Federal Government.

Our job, might I remind my colleagues, is to make sure the Micaelas of the world never slip through the cracks. I believe, and I have confidence in the ability of local governments to be creative and effective, and I think so does H.R. 27. What we have today is a confusing patchwork of employment, training services. The duplication of those reduces the amount of money we get to use to help Micaelas. Many amendments that we will be discussing on the floor have also been discussed in committee. A lot of other amendments were heard in the committee. This was fully discussed in committee and voted upon.

May I just, in closing, ask us not to lose sight that the goal is service and how to provide training for people which is given without any precondition. Hiring practices that are protected by existing law are that, protected by existing law. If we feel there is a problem with that, then we should attack the existing law, and there are venues to do that. This is not the venue in this particular bill. Faith-based institutions out there, which are not rich, are still nevertheless effective. They care. They have the same goal as we do. Our goal should be to try to join hands to help all the Micaelas in the world solve the problem of employment, retraining, and servicing, not to try to change our friends in other particular ways but to join together on a common front, in a common effort, to help people, not to harm people.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge adoption of the rule and the underlying legislation.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the structured rule that has been reported out of the Committee on Rules for this debate. The party-line vote of 220–204 that we saw in the 108th Congress on the debate of the then H.R. 1261 should evidence the need for the most open debate over the issues. The need for debate arises from disagreement. As representatives of the United States Congress, we all have a duty to fully debate the issues on behalf of our constituents. A restricted rule precludes that opportunity.

Nevertheless, I am pleased that the amendments of my colleagues from Massachusetts, New York, and Virginia respectively have been ruled in order.

Passage of these three important amendments will bring H.R. 27 one step closer to providing more jobs and better opportunities for American workers to receive training for these jobs. Without them and many other suggestions that have been made by our colleagues, this bill fails as to both initiatives. In the short term, extending unemployment benefits, coupled with the assistance that unemployed workers can receive through one-stop service centers, will provide workers with the means to achieve high paying jobs.

We must address the needs of our unemployed now and in a manner that respects the rights of individuals regardless of their faith, while they are struggling to pay their mortgages and to put food on the table for their families. The base bill will fail to address these concerns and squander resources better used to provide immediate help to our unemployed workers.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to reject a restrictive rule or to support the amendments offered by Mr. TIERNEY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Mr. SCOTT.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 3:15 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 56 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 3:15 p.m.

□ 1515

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON) at 3 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule xx, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H. Res. 126, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 912, by the yeas and nays.

Without objection, the minimum time for electronic voting on the second question will be reduced to 5 minutes, notwithstanding the intervention of remarks concerning the passing of a former Member.

There was no objection.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 27, JOB TRAINING IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2005

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of agreeing to the resolution, H. Res. 126, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 227, nays 191, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 42]

YEAS—227

Aderholt	Bilirakis	Bradley (NH)
Akin	Bishop (UT)	Brady (TX)
Alexander	Blackburn	Brown (SC)
Bachus	Blunt	Brown-Waite,
Baker	Boehert	Ginny
Barrett (SC)	Boehner	Burgess
Bartlett (MD)	Bonilla	Burton (IN)
Barton (TX)	Bonner	Buyer
Bass	Bono	Calvert
Beauprez	Boozman	Camp
Biggart	Boustany	Cannon